REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claim 1, 8, 9, 11 and 20, of which 1, 9, 11, 13 and 20 independent claims. Claims 2-7, 10 and 12 have been cancelled. 13-20 have been newly added.

Claims Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1-7 and 9-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sutherland et al (US Patent No. 7,069,295). Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sutherland et al (US Patent No. 7,069,295) in view of Albanese et al (US Patent Publication No. 2006/0112188).

As clarified in the amendment, before downloading an application, the present invention inquires about the space capacity necessary for storing the application and reserve a space having the capacity in a storage area. In order to effect the invention, claim 1 recites:

"providing at an area management apparatus a capacity reference table in which identifications of applications and capacities necessary for storing the applications are storable in relation to identifications of application providers;

receiving at the area management apparatus from a communication terminal a request identifying an application to be downloaded by the communication terminal ;

using the capacity reference table, determining at the area management apparatus a capacity necessary for storing the application identified in the request; and

transmitting at the area management apparatus to the communication terminal an execution instruction to reserve a space having the determined capacity in a storage area of the communication terminal."

Southerland discloses a storage coordinator which creates a replication group and allocates to the replication group a predetermined amount of the storage resources. (col. 3, lines 20-24). By creating a replication group, a file is continuously recoverable

from any one of the nodes in the associated group even if one or some of the storage nodes fail. (col. 2, lines 60-64). The storage coordinator creates a replication group in response to a request from a user. The storage first selects nodes for the replication group and instructs them to reserve an appropriate amount of their storage resources for the replication group files. (col. 6, lines 12-20).

First of all, the storage coordinator of Southerland does not have the capacity reference table as recited in claim 1, in which identifications of applications and capacities necessary for storing the applications are storable in relation to identifications of application providers. The coordinator cares only about storage lockers, and the storage lockers have nothing to do with the sizes of individual applications ("[T]he storage lockers are mechanisms for allocating storage resources to the files and also for controlling access to the files." col. 6, lines 2-4).

Second, in Sutherland, a request from a user to create a new locker does not have any indication of an individual application to be downloaded. The user only specifies (1) Name of Locker, (2) Initial size of Locker, (3) Version history, (4) Number of versions to maintain, (5) Index Locker and (6) Level of recoverability (col. 12. lines 27-35).

Third, the storage coordinator of Southerland does not identify the size of any application. After receiving the request from the user, the coordinator compares, particularly, the requested size of the locker against the system policies. If the requested size meets the policies, the storage coordinator establishes the requested storage locker (col. 12, lines 37-43). Thus, the storage coordinator does not even designate the size of a storage locker. The storage coordinator just adopts the size of a locker requested by the user if the size is acceptable.
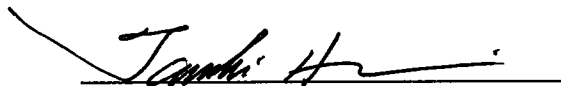
For the reasons set forth above, Southerland fails to disclose the material limitations of claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 should be allowable over Southerland. The other independent claims have been amended to include similar limitations and thus are believed to be allowable over Southerland.

Nor does Albanese et al disclose or teach the above limitations.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the claimed invention is neither anticipated by nor would have been obvious in view of Southerland and Albanese,

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either individually or in combination. Accordingly, withdrawal of this ground of rejection is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Tadashi Horie
Registration No. 40,473
Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE
P.O. BOX 10395
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610
(312) 321-4200